

REMARKS

The Examiner has requested a restriction requirement directed to pending Claims 1-23. The Examiner alleges that the application contains claims directed to the following distinct species of the claimed invention: Claims 1-15 (Group I) drawn to a semiconductor device; and Claims 16-23 (Group II) drawn to a method for making a semiconductor device. The Examiner alleges that Group I and Group II claims define patentably distinct inventions.

We respectfully disagree with the Examiner's restriction requirement. Applicant respectfully submits that the Claims are interrelated to one another and should be prosecuted as part of the same application. However, in order to fully respond to the Examiner's restriction requirements, Applicant has elected to prosecute Claims 1-15 (Group I) in the subject patent application. Claims 16-23 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and replaced with new Claims 24-28 which are drawn to the same species as Group I.

No additional fees should be incurred by the addition of the new Claims since the total number of Claims being prosecuted is 20. If there are any fees incurred by this Amendment Letter, please deduct them from our Deposit Account NO. 23-0830.

Respectfully submitted,



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